Saturday, September 13, 2008 • Vol. 23 / No. 288 • online: www.inquirer.net

North Korea's Kim well enough to brush his teeth
WORLD / A21

Pope Benedict goes to Lourdes for 150th anniversary of Mary's apparitions
WORLD / A22

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

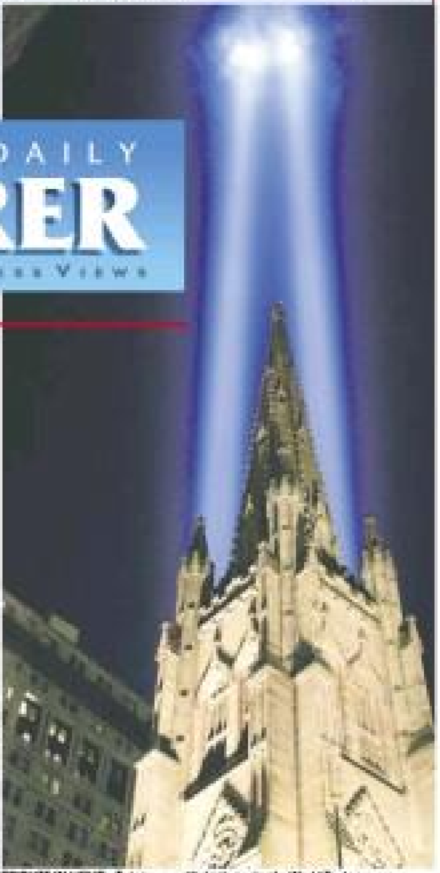
Thai protests not like RP's 'people power'

By Seth Mydans

BANGKOK, THAILAND—IT LOOKS A LOT like a "people power" revolution, the kind of brave and joyous pro-democracy uprising that has toppled dictators from the Philippines to Serbia.

For more than two weeks, thousands of

THAI PROTESTS/A11



TRIBUTE IN LIGHT Twin towers of light that echo the World Trade towers converge over the spire of the Trinity Church adjacent to Ground Zero in Lower Manhattan, New York City, commemorate on Thursday the seventh anniversary of the once unimaginable attack right on US soil that killed more than 3,000 people. They remain overnight and into the next day.

Senate will not probe Bro. Mike

But Villar very much in line of fire

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

THE SENATORS AGITATING FOR AN INVESTIGATION into the suspicious double allocation of P400 million in the 2008 budget for the C-5 road extension project that is being linked to Senate President Manuel Villar are excluding politically influential El Shaddai leader Bro. Mike Velarde from the probe.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson, who was the one who exposed the congressional insertion, said the resolution for an investigation referred only to the double entry aspect of the issue.

Almost all the eight senators—Senators Aquilino Pimentel Jr., Benigno Aquino III, Rodolfo Biazon, Richard Gordon, Loren Legarda, Jamby Madrigal, Manuel Roxas and Lacson—who signed the resolution asking the Senate to investigate how the C-5 road extension ended up being listed as two projects in the 2008 budget with an identical allocation of P200 million agreed that Velarde was a separate issue altogether.

SENATE/A6

C-5 extension above board, says DPWH

By Margaux C. Ortiz and Norman Bordadora

A DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS and Highways official yesterday declared that there was no irregularity in the controversial C-5 road extension project and that Sen. Panfilo Lacson's allegations of "double appropriation" were unfounded.

Manuel Bonoan, a senior undersecretary of the DPWH, clarified that the two appropriations that Lacson found under similar entries for the C-5 road extension were for two components of just one project.

The project is called the "Alignment of the C-5 Road" and is aimed at connecting the North Luzon Expressway (NLEx) to the South Luzon Expressway (SLEx) and to the Coastal Road in Parañaque and Las Piñas.

C-5 EXTENSION/A6



LIFE-SAVING RITUAL At the preschool for the first Global Handwashing Day to be launched Oct. 15 by the departments of health and education, children are taught how to wash their hands to stress that this simple ritual prevents killer diseases like diarrhea and pneumonia. The last is the third leading cause of deaths among kids under 5.

Obama, McCain forget politics at Ground Zero

NEW YORK—AFTER DAYS OF SHARP attacks against each other, Senators John McCain and Barack Obama suspended political combat on Thursday, including television commercials, and instead made joint visits to Ground Zero and a forum on public service here to mark the seventh anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

At one point McCain, who spoke first at the nighttime forum at Columbia University, touched briefly on a politically divisive issue: He urged universities to reverse Vietnam-era bans on Reserved Officers Training Corps activities that still exist at some campuses, describing the training of officers as a form of public service.

While Obama made no campaign appearances on Thursday, he did not entirely halt campaign-related activities either. He shared a 90-minute lunch in Harlem with former President Bill Clinton, a long-discussed meeting that was intended, in part, to soothe any ill will left from the bitter Democratic primary campaign between Obama and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, and to give the two men more time to get acquainted.

Advisers to both men said afterward that the meeting was cordial and that Clinton urged Obama to keep his political message focused on economic issues.

OBAMA/A11

Ex-solon sues QC judge who sent him to jail

By Jerome Aning

FORMER MINDORO OCCIDENTAL governor and congressman Jose Villarosa yesterday filed criminal and administrative charges against a Quezon City Regional Trial Court judge, accusing her of wrongfully convicting him for the murder of the two sons of a political rival in 1997.

In complaints before the Department of Justice, Villarosa accused Judge Ma. Theresa de la Torre-Yadao of unjustly and deliberately disregarding the testimony and evidence he presented in his defense.

He said his suit was meant to be a lesson to all judges to be fair to the accused who are innocent until proven guilty.

EX-SOLON/A11

Ex-DND chief comes out swinging vs GMA, tells people to be 'vigilant'

By Miko Dizon

FORMER DEFENSE SECRETARY AVELINO "Nonong" Cruz Jr. has urged people to be "vigilant and fight any attempt" of President Macapagal-Arroyo to impose emergency rule if hostilities in Central Mindanao escalate and ignite terrorist attacks in other parts of the country.

In an interview over ANC network on Thursday night, Cruz said: "There is always temptation... We should be vigilant, we should fight against any attempt to impose any kind of emergency rule because that's the last thing we need... It will exacerbate the situation."

EX-DND CHIEF/A11



PRAYING LADIES President Arroyo together with Batangas Gov. Vilma Santos lead the National Day of Prayer and Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary at Carmel Monastery in Lipa City on Friday.

PCGG chair goes on leave starting Sept. 29

By Michael Lim Ubac

HE SEEMED TO HAVE CHANGED HIS mind overnight.

With a threat of disbarment hanging over his head, Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) Chair Camilo Sabio yesterday decided to go on an indefinite leave.

But not immediately.

Malacañang said Sabio's leave would take effect only on Sept. 29 upon his return from a two-week "official mission" to Paris, France and Vienna, Austria.

Sabio's decision to go on leave came a day after he told reporters he intended to stay on as PCGG chief even if the Supreme Court disbarred him—as long as President Macapagal-Arroyo wanted him to stay.

An administration source, who asked not to be identified because he had no authority to talk about it, said Sabio was told by the Palace to take a leave pending the outcome

PCGG CHAIR/A6

Ombudsman shoots down high-flying Customs employees



By Jocelyn R. Uy

SHE IS A CUSTOMS OFFICER EARNING less than P200,000 a year and yet owns four cars, besides a house and lot. He is a messenger with a salary of about P70,000 annually and yet owns a Toyota Revo and a Honda Civic.

The Office of the Ombudsman fired both of them for failing lifestyle checks, according to a resolution released yesterday.

In separate actions, Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez placed two other Bureau of Customs (BOC) officers under six-month preventive suspension and sus

OMBUDSMAN/A6

Second FrontPage

MEGALOTTO 6/45

P50,750,234.20

2 Mindoro solons post bail

Sandigan spares them from weekend in jail

ORIENTAL MINDORO REPRESENTATIVES Rodolfo Valencia and Alfonso Umali Jr. saved themselves from spending the weekend in jail by surrendering to the Sandiganbayan yesterday.

Hospital pajamas

Ambulance and 2 doctors

Unauthorized motion

Valencia statement



FREE FOR NOW Valencia walks to freedom after posting bail.



Lagman fires 1st salvo for House population bill

Priority list

RH bill foes to bold vigil

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892-SKIN (7546)

facial care

CENTRE



A CROWD gathers in front of the house of the victims in San Jose del Monte.

Massacre in Bulacan

CITY OF MALOLOS—ARMED men on Friday barged into the house of a Department of Agriculture employee in San Jose del Monte City, and killed him, his wife and two children, police said. [illegible]

‘Marce’ now less of a threat to RP

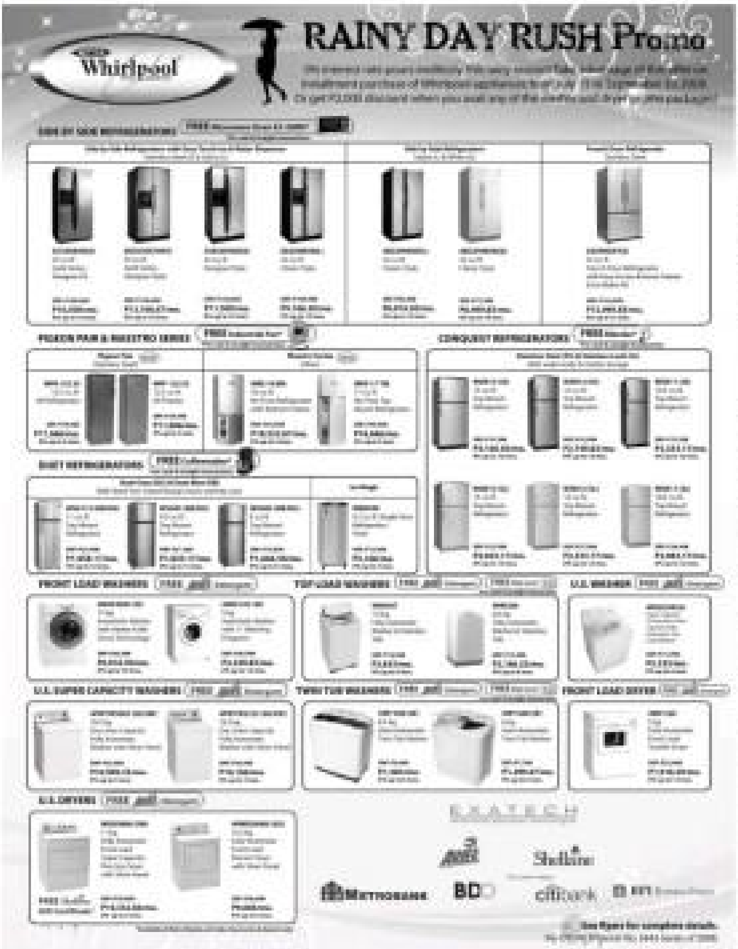
TYPHOON “MARCE” [illegible]

Longer wait for last 2 bodies in Compostela

THE WAIT COULD BE LONGER [illegible]

‘Storm’ not over yet, says Palace

THE GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY [illegible]

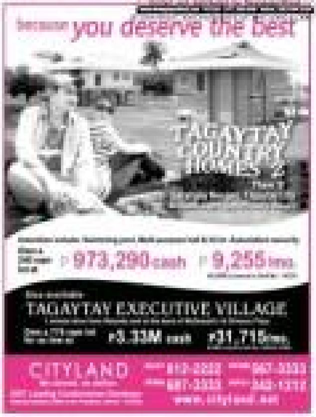


THE DAILY GOSPEL

[illegible]

9 Pinoy sailors freed in Somalia





Nat'l treasury to get P163M from sale of Bulletin shares





Senate will not probe Bro. Mike



VELARDE



VILLAR PRESS

Ouster rumors

Jamby wants Bro. Mike probed

Velarde right of way

Bigger anomalies

Review transaction

'I worked hard for my wealth'

Palace distances itself from 'double insertion'

Insertions as additional budget

C-5 extension above board, says DPWH

P3.7B needed to complete project

Alternative route

Honest mistake

Part of master plan

Greetings to **Imperial Homes Corporation**
and your subsidiaries and affiliates,
Asia Leisure Land, Inc., Premiere Fiesta Land, Inc.,
and **DEMI Land Properties,** on your 25th anniversary
in the real estate industry.

From your joint venture partner in
Sta. Rosa Heights Phase 6,
Suntrust Properties, Inc.



STA.ROSA HEIGHTS

PHASE 1
Villa
Sold Out

PHASES 2 & 3
Andalucia
Sold Out

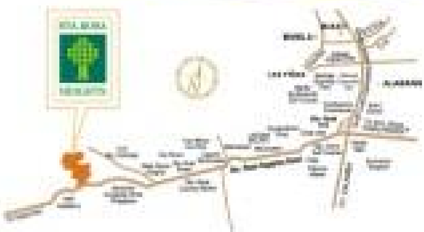
PHASE 4
Sierra
Few Units Left

PHASE 5
Jardin
Few Units Left

PHASE 6
Suntrust - Imperial Homes Joint Project
NOW OPEN



Phase 6, your new home in Sta. Rosa Heights, the fastest selling project
in the South. Set at the border of Silang and Sta. Rosa,
it is a 3.5 hectare Spanish Mediterranean community of single
detached and triplex homes with panoramic views of Laguna de Bay.
And the residences are a stroll away from amenities such as
a multi-purpose court, fountain, gazebo, landscaped walkways,
ornamental areas, village shops, themed pocket parks and
a clubhouse called Vista del Santa Rosa.



Join our **Investors' Night** on Sept. 13, Sat., 5:30-10:30 PM, and
Family Day and Open House on Sept. 14, Sun., 9 AM-6 PM.

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SUNTRUST

GMA convoy figures in 2 accidents; 3 hurt

DOJ summons Justice Sabio

PCGG chair goes on leave starting Sept. 29

SMC denies Meralco takeover bid

Ombudsman shoots ...

Audit of oil firms legal, says DOJ

Abigail L. Ho

Farmer sues Esperon, Palparan for detention, torture

By Jocelyn R. Uy

Ex-DND chief comes out …

Military's meager resources

Costly mistake

Hands on President

Not too long in power

WHAT WENT BEFORE

The Firm broke up with GMA over Cha-cha

Ex-solon sues …

Partiality

Rational grounds

Obama, McCain forget politics …



Extended truce

List of names

Spirit of service

Great courage

White ribbons, taps

Thai protests not like RP's 'people power'

Elected by people

Weird situation

Prone to coups

PINOY EXPERT'S WARNING

RP vulnerable to climate change

By TJ Burgonio

THE PHILIPPINES IS VERY VULnerable to climate change and its diverse species will be the first to be wiped out if the temperature warms up, a US-based Filipino physicist said yesterday.

"The Philippines is not emitting a lot of carbon dioxide, but it's gonna be the biggest victim of climate change," Dr. Josefino Comiso said in a briefing organized by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST).

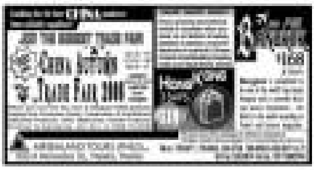
Comiso, a senior scientist at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) who has made studies on climate change, said the country is very vulnerable to a warming climate because it is home to a high diversity of species.

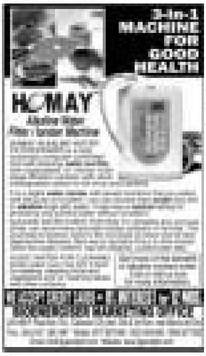
"Most of these species are very vulnerable to even a slight change in temperature," he later told reporters. [illegible]

[illegible]

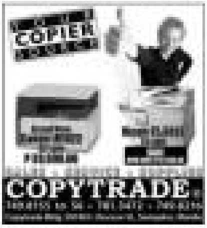
Only 4 to 5 percent of the 27,000 sq km of the country's coral reefs are in excellent condition.

[illegible]

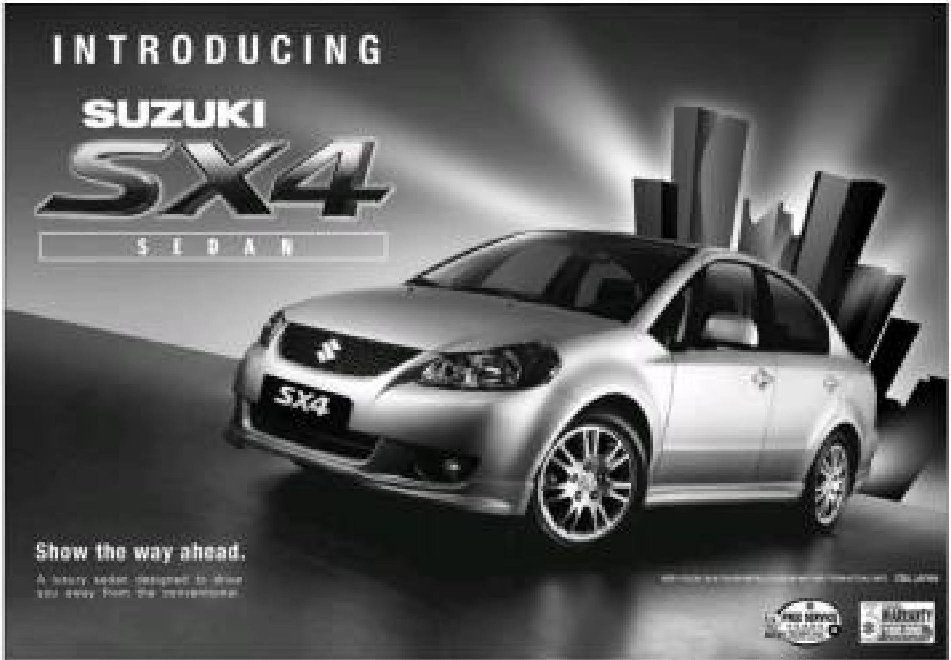










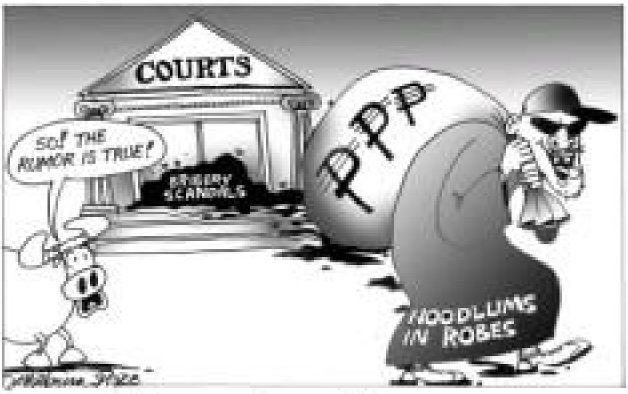


OPINION

Time to go

EDITORIAL

[illegible]



The paradoxes of democracy

PUBLIC LIVES

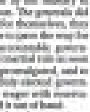


Randy David

[illegible]

Examination of conscience

GET REAL



Solita Collas-Monsod

[illegible]

Reading the US statewide polls

SOCIAL CLIMATE



Mahar Mangahas

Reading and remembering

COMMENTARY

Neni Sta. Romana Cruz

A nation in hunger

COMMENTARY

Silverio J. Berenguer

University, diversity

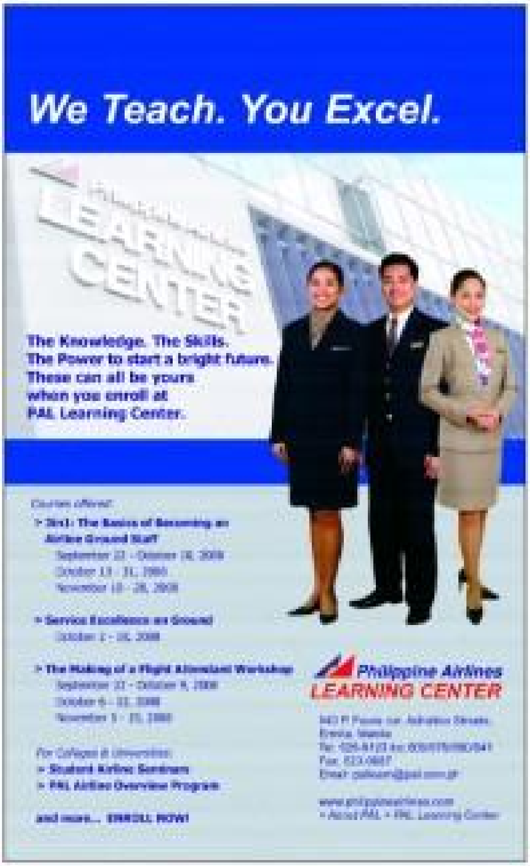
YOUNG BLOOD

Patrick Henry Anthero

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

THEY SAID

Callous maneuvering





See you at the movies!

LETTERS

Steel Corp.'s complaint triggered by self-interests

Mayor Lim cannot be compared with Among Ed

Kin of 'purged' victims crying in the wilderness

Tulfo added words to Santos-Sabio phone chat

The world knows who killed Ninoy Aquino

News Briefs

■ CEBU CITY

Cargo vessel sinks

■ BACOLOD CITY

Woman draws 40-yr jail term for arson

NPAs attack farm

■ TACLOBAN CITY

Pirated DVDs, CDs destroyed

■ STA. ROSA, LAGUNA

Money outlet robbed

■ CALAMBA CITY

2 new BI offices open in Calabarzon

Sister of GMA says withdrawal of case vs Lapid an injustice

ANGELES CITY—FORMER PAMPANGA VICE GOV. Cielo Macapagal-Salgado on Friday called an "injustice" the withdrawal of a graft case against Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid in connection with the purchase of a 40-hectare property worth P104 million for which two deeds of sale were made when he was governor 11 years ago.

Cannot be reached



PRIVATE AFFAIR

Execs of Negros provinces see 1-island state under federalism

By Carla P. Gomez

Inquirer Visayas

Senate initiative

Updates

NBI arrests fake doctor in Eastern Samar town

By Joey A. Gabieta

Inquirer Visayas

Gov't allows tuna firms to import fuel



FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE

Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, flanked by statues of the Virgin Mary, delivers a homily urging his flock to join the campaign against the reproductive health bill pending in Congress.

Groups to sue DENR for OK of coal plants

Muslim scholars appeal for human rights respect

INQUIRER Visayas

The day they buried Angel Benitez



By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Iloilo City

AS PROMISED BY HIS WIFE, HE WAS GIVEN the best burial. Amid a shower of confetti, full military honors and a rousing tribute, Lt. Col. Angel Benitez, was laid to rest at high noon on Aug. 30 as his fellow soldiers vowed to pursue his fight.

Always an achiever

Last messages

Historic flight arrives in Borongan

By Cyrain Cabuenas
Borongan City

EASTERN SAMAR hopes to soar on wings of regular South East Asian Airlines (Sea Air) flights.

Shared risk

The best is yet to come







Globe
3-DAY SALE
Market! Market! Activity Center
September 12 to 14, 2008
Barkada Deals!
Big discounts when you buy 2 Phone Kits or more
my phone S21
P1,890*
Single Unit Price:
P1,950
Nokia 1208
P1,590*
Single Unit Price:
P1,650
P950*
P950*
P1,190*
P2,490*
P5,090*
P2,890*
P5,490*
Bonus P100 Globe AMAX load
May Trade-In Offer pa!
Trade in your old mobile phone for cash!
Prepaid Internet on-the-go for only P2,500!
P3,500
P2,500
Special Barkada Deal when you and a friend are among the first 50 pairs of buyers.
Napakarami pang Postpaid, Broadband at phone kit offers para sa inyo!
Kaya mas madali ngayon maging
CONNECTED 24EVER

A plus METRO

‘Water stress’ in Metro

High level of urbanization affects supply–NWRB



BUSY DAY

METRO MANILA MAY NOT BE having a water crisis, but it is experiencing “water stress.”

MetroBriefs

TV host, pal hurt in road mishap

Ordinance renaming West Avenue filed

Book on Nazareno devotees launched today

Antipolo newspaper hits city officials

SYNDICATE'S HANDIWORK

4 suspects in QC heists nabbed

How to be rich and powerful

On Target



2 Taguig City bars 'behaving well' after reopening

N. Korea's Kim well enough to brush his teeth



SON OF BIN LADEN

Playing with the big boys now



The WORLD

Samak isolated as friends desert him

Thai lawmakers boycott vote on ousted leader's bid to return to power

BANGKOK, THAILAND—POLITICAL ALLIES OF Thailand's ousted prime minister deserted him on Friday in his bid to return to power in a parliamentary vote, leaving him isolated following his removal by a court for violating conflict-of-interest rules.

New York pauses for 9/11 observation at Ground Zero



English Channel tunnel fire still blazing

Pope Benedict to be a Lourdes pilgrim

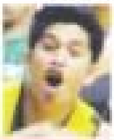




WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Kings** shopping around for big man /A24

SPORTS



- **No more** surprises, say Final 4 squads /A25

Ex-handler tells Pacman: 'Run around, hit around'



By Marc Anthony Reyes

BEWARE OF THAT LEFT hook.

RP to Laos: No Christmas playdates please

By Marc Anthony Reyes

OF THE MANY APPEALS THE COUN-

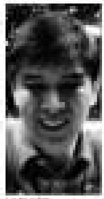




Kings shopping around for big man



TAULAVA



UICHICO



PBL sets rookie camp

What's stopping Oscar from tapping this great Mexican?

Bare Eye

Recah Trinidad



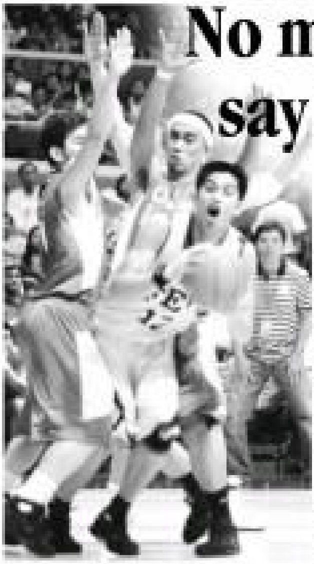
Abaniel defends crown vs Thai tonight



ABANIEL

Ryder Cup: US golfers out to end losing skid

No more surprises, say Final 4 squads



All-Korean squad becomes eighth FPL entry

SPORTSWATCH

Best launches photo, writing tilts

Intramuros hosts hole-in-one tourney

SJC Anniversary derby finals today

Harbour Centre-Taguig 5 sets up Liga duel vs Cebu

Underbone seventh leg up



Lady Pirates eye 2 finals

Lyceum, CSA book nat'l cheerleading finals slots



SPORTS

Tour of Luzon qualifying race today; over 200 riders joining





Torre rules PGMA Cup

Asia's first GM ends 5-year wait

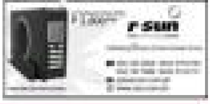




IN THIS ISSUE

BUSINESS

ten tech items



Peso recovers to 46.86 to a dollar

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET

Stocks close lower



S&P: No crisis, only turbulence, for Asian banks

THE PESO YESTERDAY RALLIED TO 46.86 AFTER breaching 47 against the dollar on Thursday as currency dealers locked in gains from earlier bets on the greenback.

₱5B set for farm R&D, extension work



Ayala raising ₱6B from stock offering

Funding for BPO, overseas property segment

Foreign investor eyed for 20% stake in Philex

Vantage drops bid for Transco stake

Cemco hikes stake in Holcim

₱5B set for farm R&D, extension work

Peso recovers to 46.86 to a dollar

Philippine Stock Exchange

Currencies

BSP lowers balance of payments outlook for '08

Close dummy mine firms, SEC urged

Remittances coursed through banks may again break records this year

Gov't sets aside ₱1B to cover rise in infra costs



OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory
of
Violeta Calvo-Drilon

(August 28, 1943 - September 13, 1995)

Frank Drilon, his wife Mila,
and children Ellen and Chris Lucas, Patrick and
grandchild Lia, request relatives and friends to remember her
in their prayers on her

THIRTEENTH DEATH ANNIVERSARY.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered today
at the following churches:

Santuario de San Jose, Greenhills, San Juan	6:15 AM, 7:15 AM & 6:00 PM
Mary the Queen Church, Greenhills, San Juan	6:00 AM, 7:00 AM & 6:00 PM
Christ the King Church, Green Meadows, Q.C.	6:00 AM, 7:00 AM & 6:00 PM
Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Valle Verde V, Pasig City	6:30 AM & 6:30 PM
Lady of the Abandoned Church, Sta. Ana, Manila	7:00 AM
La Consolacion Convent, Santolan	6:30 AM
Our Lady of Edsa Shrine, Edsa, Quezon City	12:15 PM
Holy Cross Church, J.P. Rizal, Makati City	6:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Milagros V. Sadili

of B.F. Homes, Parañaque and San Juan, Batangas
Retired Professor, University of the East

*Passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on September 10, 2008 at the age of 84.*

Her beloved family Fred & Penny, Adeling & Willie (†), Loreninna, Ramon & Daly (†), Wilma, Nene & Banching (†) Trinidad, Doya & Charlie Schwalbacher and Nitz; cousins, nephews and nieces, grandchildren and other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Loyola Memorial Park Mortuary, Sucat Road, Parañaque City.

Interment will be at Loyola Memorial Park on Sunday, September 14, after the 1:00 p.m. Mass at Presentation of the Child Jesus Parish, BF Homes, Parañaque City.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Obituary Requirements:

- Copy of Death Certificate
- Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS

and bank-to-bank payments



Godofredo 'Fred' V. Gonzales

who peacefully joined His Creator on the 10th day of September 2008 at the age of 68.

His loving wife Myrna; children Elfred, Gary and Loren; grandchildren, relatives, brothers and sisters request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Capilla del Señor at the Santuario de San Antonio Parish, McKinley Rd. Forbes Park, Makati City.

Cremation will be on Sunday, September 14, 2008 at 2 p.m. at the Heritage Memorial Park, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.

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MAKATI:
882-8878; 511-4281;
511-4379

DAVAO:
426-8213; 827-3342

ISABELA:
835-8219; 835-6329

Message of Thanks

For visiting us and being with us in our time of sorrow...
For praying with us and for us...
For the Mass cards and messages of sympathy and condolences...
For joining us in our nightly vigils...
For attending the Masses and funeral rites...
For bringing all of us in our hour of grief...
For all that you have done to console our hearts...

Our sincerest gratitude

From the family of the late

GLORIA ENRIQUEZ LIWANAG

(May 17, 1922-August 23, 2008)

BUENAVENTURA M. GONDA
"BEN"

July 14, 1915 – September 11, 2008

Peacefully joined his Creator and loving wife "Pening".

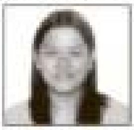
He is survived by his brother David and sister Soledad, sons Manny & wife Char, Noel, daughters Lou & husband Jerry, Queeny & husband Eric, Rosie; grandchildren Ian, Michael, Armand, Jon, Peny, Lisbon & Marybeth and great grandchildren Rashi and Joy, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel-D, La Funeraria Paz, Inc., G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City.

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



Notice is hereby given that CARLA A. CO is no longer connected with ST. PETER LIFE PLAN, INC. and is not authorized to enter into any official or business transactions involving St. Peter Life Plan, Inc. and/or any business transactions with any other company connected with ST. PETER LIFE PLAN, INC. The public is encouraged to report any transactions, dealings or activities conducted by CARLA A. CO claiming to be connected with St. Peter Life Plan to 811-77-97.

ERRATUM

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS INSTANTLY

JOB

CLASSIFIEDS

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF CAPIZ

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

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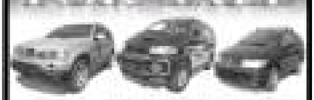
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PROPERTY



Editor Cesar D. Mangawang



15 ways to prevent your home from getting 'repossessed'

By Tessa R. Salazar

BUYING PROPERTY on impulse may cause more regrets in the end.

An industry legal expert has estimated that 50 percent of buyers of house and lots and condominium units had admitted they could no longer pay their monthly amortizations or were dissatisfied with particular aspects of the project, and were asking for refunds of their payments.

Mike Demura, legal officer of the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board, told Inquirer Property that he based this on callers asking for assistance at the HLURB hotline.

He added that some of these callers were overseas contract workers who could no longer find jobs abroad.

This has prompted Demura to enumerate to Inquirer Property the following 15 reminders to potential property buyers.

1 Check the source of your income. Aside from checking the development projects thoroughly, look at your own resources on a long-term basis to be certain if you can really pay your monthly amortizations in the long run.

2 Check if the project has a license to sell and if it is registered with the HLURB.

3 Check if the broker or agent is registered.

4 Check if the property is not yet sold to others.

5 Conduct personal visits to the project site. It is also advisable to visit the property itself to check for leaks or potential for flooding.

6 If you're buying on pre-selling terms, look at the date of completion of the project, which should be found in the developer's license to sell.

7 Check if the property is mortgaged. If it is, make sure there is clearance from the HLURB.

8 Check if the materials used in your prospective home conform with the standards approved by the HLURB. It is indicated in the approved plan. The local government approves the plan for subdivision projects, while the HLURB approves plans for condominiums. HLURB grants certificates of registration and licenses to sell to developers applying for project approvals.

Demura also said approval of subdivision projects also includes the assurance of safety measures. Mandatory requirements, particularly in condominium units, include certificates of fire protection, occupancy permits and mechanical certificates.

9 Make it clear who should be responsible for paying the costs of water and electric meters.

10 Check whether subdivision perimeter fences will be provided. If it is not in the approved plan, a buyer cannot demand the developer to put perimeter fences.

11 Do not sign a blank contract to sell.

12 Read the contract to sell thoroughly, especially the fine print.

13 Secure a copy of the contract to sell and of the other documents that you have signed.

14 Make sure the contract to sell will be registered with the Register of Deeds (the developer is mandated to do this).

15 Pay directly to the owner-developer and/or authorized marketing agents, and make sure to ask for official receipts as soon as they get your payment.





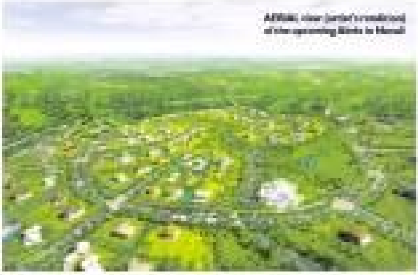




Ayala Land eyes P4.5B from Abrio's premier lots







Highly strategic

Letters of intent

P4.5 billion

Mr. Donut goes green



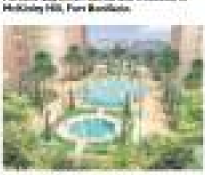
NEW counter

Conservational qualities

Environment-safe

McKinley Hill hosts Porsche Cayenne Festival





Best deals

Luxury car festival host

Finest township to date

The Ubud Hanging Gardens in Bali





Green development

Traditional craftsmanship

Energy-efficient design

Building design

Wind tunnel

Innovative feature



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Another residential landmark

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CASA California Exclusive, Asia Leisure Land Inc.



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MALTA, Asia Leisure Land Inc.

Marking 25 silver years as a company, Imperial Homes Corporation



IHC Group chair and CEO Ms Emma M. Imperial



Its beginnings

Its present growth and clear future



JOINT VENTURE WITH EMPIRE EAST SUNTRUST



INAUGURATION



JOINT Venture with Pag-IBIG Fund

Atty. Gregorio S. Imperial

Ms Emma M. Imperial

"I believe in helping our people and our country. As leaders in business, we remain in good and bad times."

"We shall continue to lead, building great homes that are affordable and keeping our commitment to a sustainable environment."

Gregorio Fernand M. Imperial

"If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants."

Gregorio Derrick M. Imperial

Imperial family culture



AMPARO Villafuerte



IMPERIAL Homes officers



THE Imperial family



PREMIERE Fiesta Land officers

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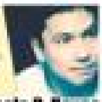


Freeze spirit

Say sayonara to the sacrilegious combo of beer and ice. Thanks to the freezing technology of Beer Below Zero, perfectly chilled brews are no longer as elusive as a Beijing Olympic medal



LOST IN TRANSIT



Paolo R. Reyes

IT'S THE LATEST BUZZ IN THE bar world. Well, at least in those places where the sound of sizzling *sisig* mixes with the beer-powered banter of Happy Hour.

[illegible]

Less than zero

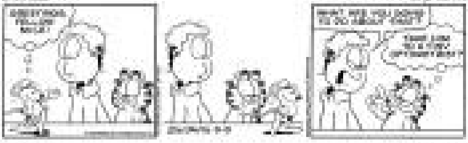
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FREEZE /C4





GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



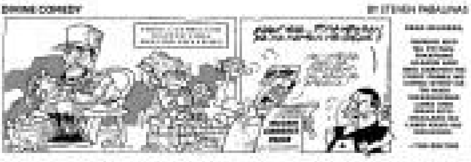


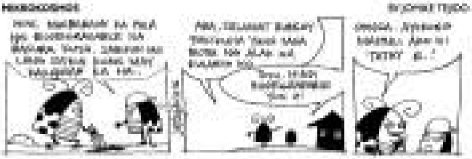


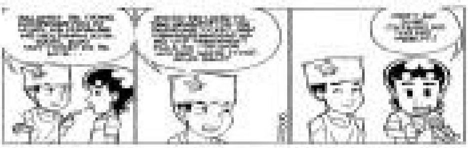
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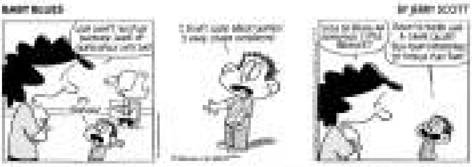
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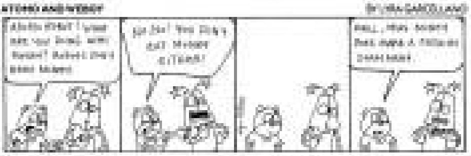


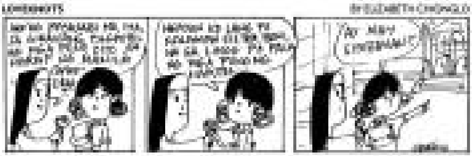


BABY BLUES — BY JERRY SCOTT

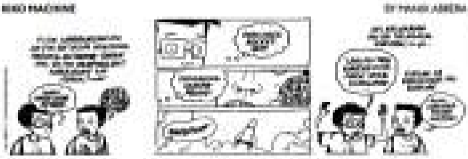


ATOMO AND WEBBY

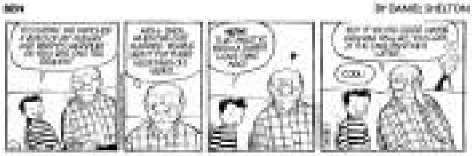




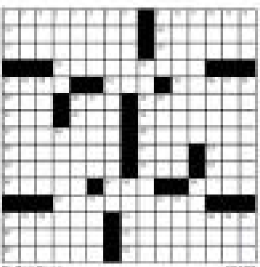
KIKO MACHINE



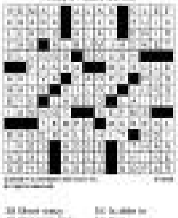
BEN — BY DANIEL SHELTON



DAILY CROSSWORD



Friday's Puzzle Solved



HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCES DRAKE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku — By Dave Green

	6	3		9				
		4						3
			2				4	6
						6		
8				7				1
		5						
5	3				2			
2						9		
				8		1	7	

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

Why do we ~~love~~ super love Singapore?

There's a reason why people keep going back, and it's not just for the chili crab


JAMES Ong

Compiled by Bianca Consunji

SINGAPORE MIGHT LOOK stuffy and flat at first, but there's a reason why people keep going back there over and over—after all, there has to be more to the country than insanely clean streets, chili crab, and the Merlion. Check out what some Manileños have got to say about Southeast Asia's smallest nation.

"I love the active nightlife and the fact that you can walk along the city streets feeling safe in this unusually clean Asian country. I love the discipline of the people. If you know where to buy, the prices of electronics are also awesome." -Stephen Ku, event specialist/hotelier

"On a recent press junket to Singapore, the thing that mattered most to me was its food. Life in that city can be a bit overplanned and methodical to the Manila way of doing things, and in terms of progress and efficiency they've got a good thing going, but it doesn't translate well into fun and leisure. So to meet such a varied and delicious cuisine bursting in its belly was an awesome counterpoint to the clean, sterile and administrative face of the nation. I was introduced to the saucy and spicy, earthy and exotic flavors of the Peranakan, a Chinese-Malaysian ethnic group, and now I'm a believer. Singapore rocks!" -Audrey N. Carpio, senior associate editor, Metro magazine


CHERYL Tiu

"Right now, I'm loving the cultural vibe at The Old School, a former school estate located on a hilltop. School buildings have been turned into commercial art spaces: artists' studios, art and photo galleries, a small theater showing independent movies, and a handful of cafes. It's easy to dismiss Singapore as a materialistic city that has no soul, but The Old School is proof that this simply is not true." -James B Ong, lifestyle journalist

"The food is sapphire, plus there's a variety of cultures since Singapore used to be a trading port in the olden days. So, you get the best of Indo-Chinese, Indian, Malaysian and of course Singaporean dishes. You have the China town area there, the Indian Area, etc. It's very progressive and modernized, yet it has maintained its charm—hotels like Raffles have the Old World feel. Sentosa is delightful yet, it's the Singapore harbor where the spirit of Singapore starts." -Mikaela Rillon, owner of Philosophy by Mikaela salon

"I love Singapore because I lived there when I was a baby for our family business, and I feel at home whenever I go back! It's one of the best places to go shopping and the nightlife is super fun!" -Gretchen Fullido, Star Patroller, TV Patrol/ABC Showbiz & Sports Anchor and Weathergirl

"I love the fried fillets here (Tilapia dipped in batter and served with ice cream) and fish n' chips from the British fast food joint Chippy at Far East Plaza, local fashion brand Ms's ornate garde designs at The Heeren; free domestic phone calls from the airport; quaint finds on Arab Street; authentic Indian cuisine at Little India; unique, hand-painted items by Singaporean artists at revamped shophouse turned boutique hotel New Majestic Hotel; how the locals are so friendly and polite yet are not afraid to let their hair loose and have a great time at night!" -Cheryl Tiu, associate editor, Lifestyle Asia

"I'm in love with Singapore because after a short three-hour plane ride from Manila, you get to experience an environment very different from here. Isn't that the best escape? Since I am admittedly a shopaholic, it's heaven for me because they have all the luxury brands I adore. It doesn't stop there, either. It's always great to complete your day by dining in the best of the best. A favorite would be Ikkoh Nagano's restaurant named Nogawa on Orchard road, the finest selection of sushi and sashimi I've ever had.

Every time I'm there I always try to squeeze in time to go their museums and my favorite is their National Museum. I like visiting because of the beautiful architecture with a Renaissance feel. And since I love painting, my ultimate favorite is the Singapore Art Museum. I also like to make sure I have time to experience the nightlife in every country and Singapore sure has a lot to offer from Zouk to the Ministry of Sound." -Princess Mologo, actress


STEPHEN Ku


GRETCHEN Fullido

Race the route

F1 fans can score a free trip to Singapore

SO YOU'RE A RABID FAN OF F1 racing, and you've been obsessively following the Singapore Grand Prix. While it's near-impossible to fly to Singapore in time for the races, with flights and hotels booked solid, you can still wing your way to the land of the Merlion. Here's how:

1. Super readers 18 years and above can join. All you need is a valid passport that will expire on Sept. 30, 2009 onwards.

2. From Aug. 30 to Sept. 27, three trivia questions about F1 and the Singapore Grand Prix Season will be published each week in the pages of Super. This week's questions are:

a. What is the required distance covered by an F1 race?

b. What is the top speed of a Formula One(TM) car?

c. Name any famous landmark in Singapore.

3. E-mail your answers along with your complete name, address and contact number to singaporegp@gmail.com. All entries with the correct answers will automatically qualify for the Super Challenge.

4. On Sept. 27, we'll announce the names of the participants who qualify for the Super Challenge. Qualified participants will be asked to submit a short essay on the Grand Challenge question, "What makes Singapore a perfect F1 destination?" But don't go writing those essays yet, we'll get in touch with you first if you qualify!

5. The winner will get two round trip tickets to Singapore and a 4D/3N hotel accommodation for two. Prizes are valid from Nov. 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, subject to flight and hotel availability. Prizes are nontransferable but non-convertible to cash.

Five other entries will win Singapore Tourism Board gift packs.

Answers to last week's questions:

1. Name this world's famous jazz artist who will be having a concert during the Singapore Grand Prix Season?

Diana Krall

2. How many wheels does a Formula One(TM) car have?

Four

3. What is the famous festival that will be held during the Singapore Grand Prix Season on September 27-28?

Singapore River Festival

Congratulations to those who answered all three questions! You qualify to the Super Challenge where you will be asked to write an essay on the topic: "What Makes Singapore a Perfect F1 Destination?"

Qualified participants will be announced in this section on Sept. 27.

For more info, go to www.visitsingapore.com.

I dream of Cloud 9 @ the SM Mall of Asia



Calling all surfers, skateboarders and extreme sports enthusiasts, Billabong and Stoked Inc. proudly presents, The Billabong Cloud 9 Siargao Island Invitational 2008, I dream of Cloud 9 featuring the SM Mall of Asia. On September 13 and 14, a week prior to the main attraction at the spectacular waves of Siargao Island, the Billabong USA Wake team will do a special Wake Wind-Pool demonstration and an international skate demo from Billabong Australian youngsters. Just see Pine at the San Miguel by the Bay Mall of Asia Complex.

Let the pros show you the rudimentary of Wakeboarding and Skateboarding as they rip, drop and take their way through a specially prepared course. You can't pass on the yearly experience. Also, so be sure to catch the action at the one mall that brings you righteous entertainment: the SM Mall of Asia.

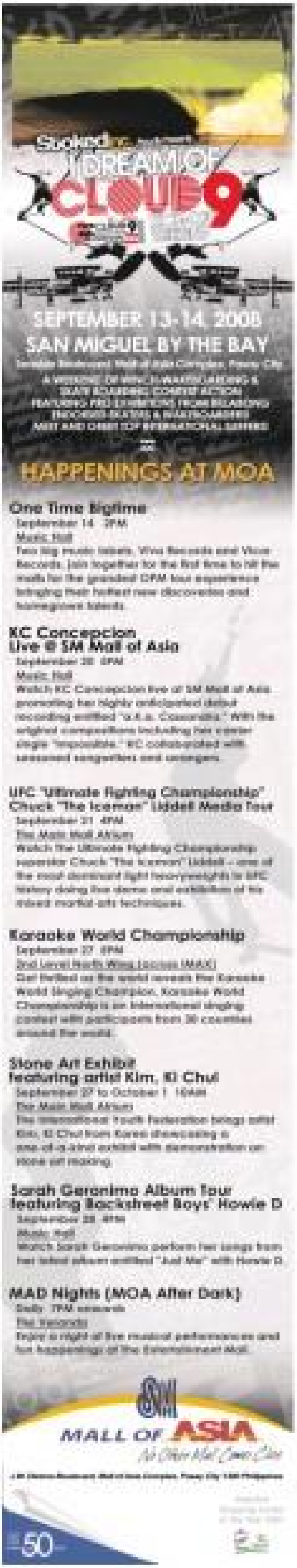
"Last year was the first time Billabong had supported the Cloud 9 surfing event in the Philippines and we were absolutely blown away by the quality of surf, the hospitality of the local people, and the attention that this event attracted worldwide," Seamus Peter, from the Marketing Manager for Billabong.

Australia's Surfing Superstar Wade Goodall will attempt to defend his 2007 title against 48 of the world's best wave riding specialists at the annual Billabong Cloud 9 Siargao Island Invitational this September 20-28 for the $36 USD top prize.

Billabong. The second installment of the Billabong Cloud 9 at the Siargao Island promises close. It sizzling action with 48 of the world's best tube riding specialists competing for the 30k USD top prize.

The Billabong Cloud 9 Siargao Island Invitational, I dream of Cloud 9 at the SM Mall of Asia is brought to you by Globe, Nestle, FCG, Blisky Bondo, TCI Philippe, the official partners and media partners ASC and Clean. These events support the Green Zoo movement for clean shores.







super Freeze spirit

From page C1

young partners of Global Beer Below Zero Inc., who always dreamed of venturing into the local beer business, were brought together by their "common passion for drinking extremely cold beer."

"The technology has been made perfect through extensive research and development with refrigeration engineers and chemists," the trio explained in their website, beerbelowzero.com. "Using a scientific approach, we've perfected the recipe of your perfect beer—ice cold, but not frozen."

Their special freezers, which are carefully monitored in each outlet by a company representative, are now available in [illegible]

Beer Below Zero's conservative target is to have their products available in 100 outlets by the end of the year. [illegible]

[illegible]



BEER FACTOR [illegible]

The best things in life are free(ze)

[illegible]



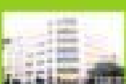
Who is Marie Pauline G. de Leon?



[illegible]





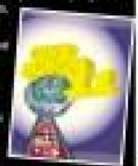


UNIQUELY Singapore

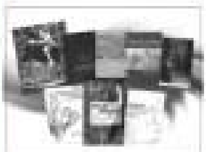
visitsingapore.com

24/7 SUPER Radar

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Ginteng Aklat Awards 2008

[illegible]

2bU LIFESTYLE



Tribe of champs

BACK-TO-BACK Champions — the UP Pep Squad

Why have only UP, UST and FEU dominated the UAAP cheer contest for 14 years now?

By Ruth L. Navarra

IN A LAND OF PREDATORS, A tribe emerged to rule them all. The Tribe UP, aka the University of the Philippines Pep Squad, became the back-to-back champions with a score of 85.5 percent in the 2008 University Athletic Association of the Philippines (UAAP) Cheering Competition last Sunday. This earned them their fifth title in cheering history.

"We've thought of the tribal theme for the longest time, even right after last year's competition. Coach Lala (Pereña) incorporated it to cheering," says co-captain Insel Dimalibo. "We wanted to be different. UP Pep has been known to be different and to have the most unique routine in the past."

The squad also added more stunts and tumblings to raise the level of difficulty of their routine. They've effectively used spear-like props that led their maroon and green pompoms to their dance sequences to establish their theme.

And after all the glitz and the "wow" moments, they ended their routine with a human obelisk emerging in the middle.

"We wanted to pay tribute to our school. Last year, we had the Oblation move. This year we wanted our ending to have more impact," says Dimalibo.

Coming in second place with a score of 83.27 is the eight-time champion Univer-

TRIBE, D3





CORRECTION

In last week's "Riding the Tiu Tiu train," 2bU failed to credit Alyssa Yap and Philip Sison of www.fabfab.com for the Chris Tiu photos. INQUIRER apologizes to the photographers and the Ateneo Sports Shooters for the oversight.





SIGNATURE UST Salinggawi Dance Troupe perfection.



FEU Cheering Squad turning the house down with a fiery routine.

Tribe of champs

From page D1

...ity of Santo Tomas Salinggawi Dance Troupe. UST played it safe by executing its trademark stunts to near perfection.

The Far Eastern University Cheering Squad came in third place with a score of 82.98 percent. They accentuated their "Muling Tamaraw" theme by incorporating fire into their uniforms and routine.

Most improved

The Ateneo de Manila University's Blue Babble Battalion came so close to the score of FEU with a .3 difference. Meanwhile, the National University Pep Squad showed the biggest improvement among the teams.

The rankings of all the squad mirrored last year's outcome. UP-UST-FEU had consistently dominated the competition. They are also the teams that have won the championships in the past 14 years.



THERE'S pride in the UP tribe.

"One of the factors is the population of the school (where the cheerleaders come from). Bigger population means more choices in the dancers. In UP most of the members of the Pep Squad have background in gymnastics," says the head of the judging panel, Leilani Gonzalo of UP.

A cheer member's dance background gives an edge to the squad because learning the techniques and doing it well could not be achieved in a year. But that's not saying that training and discipline they get while in the team is not lacking.

Biased?

Another factor is the support of the school, faculty and the population they are giving to the squad. Lastly, and probably the most controversial reason why other squads could not seem to break into the Elite Three's circle is the bias of the judges.

"We feel the same judges year in and year out. It's a trend in my faculty where we call the 'common syndrome' where a star player or a star gymnast gets higher points because the judges are used to them," says Gonzalo. "They should get a new set of judges."

In the efforts to avoid such system, the competition adopted a semi-American Standard of judging. Each toss, pyramid, choreography synchronization and visual of performance could get a maximum of up to 10 points. The total points could not, however, exceed 100 points.

The performance time was also cut down to five minutes from the original six to eight minutes.

POWER MAC CENTER

The all in one, do everything iMac.

iMac runs Microsoft Office. And Word, Powerpoint and Excel files created on a Mac are compatible with Windows.

iMac comes with Mac OS X, full of easy-to-use features like Quick Look, browse through your files without opening them, and Time Machine for automatic file backups.

Discover new ways of sharing your photos, enjoying music, creating movies and more. A lot more.



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And yes, it even runs Windows.

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Call us on (02)7297087 or 88 to book your place today
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1 Ateneo de Manila Blue Eagles

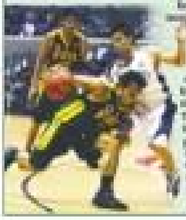


2 De La Salle Green Archers



Final four-tunes

3 Far Eastern University Tamaraws



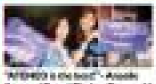
4 University of the East Red Warriors

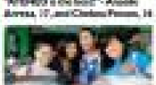


Recognition factor

Streamers and statement shirts

At Ateneo-La Salle games, students make sure they make their loyalties known

















super LIFESTYLE

Inside jokes and improvised word salads



Making sense of Shayne Ehman's excitingly random work

SHAYNE EHMAN IS notorious among a group of Vancouver artists best known for works on paper. He is also easily the most elusive.

Spending half of his time outside the city-bound art world, the 33-year-old Ehman's constant "off the grid" status has helped build his mystique.

In fact, he would seem a likely candidate for the status of "outsider artist." But it isn't that simple.

Not an art-ista

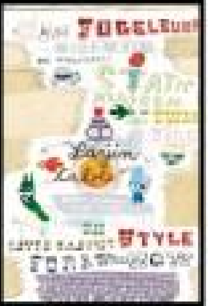
[illegible]

Look into my buggy eyes

[illegible]

Fuzzy and then a pop and boom!

[illegible]





WORD HERD The man Ehman



TEXT TWIST Ehman's text-heavy art.



A weekly directory of the country's best establishments

Where to Stop Where to Go

Trip to Macau at stake in Mandarin Oriental's Harvest Festival





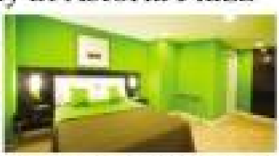
PLANTATION BAY'S REEF AND BEACH CHECK

Nagaland Hotel awaits you this Peñafrancia Fiesta

New executive chef in New Horizon Hotel



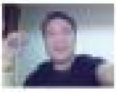
Weekend getaway at Astoria Plaza



SUPER BOOK

What do Palanca awardees, database admins, Cubans filmmakers, and Neglected Puppies have in common? They're all Super fans! So log on to your Facebook account, search for the Super page, and become our fan. Sign in.



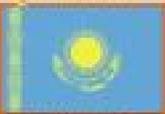


TALK DIRTY'S column, "When Nick met Dick," made it to PerezHilton.com!

SUPER REBULL

How can anyone possibly take our country seriously when our newspaper headlines have words like "Con Ass," "Milf," "Cha Cha," and "Kumander Bobo!"?

COUNTRY OF THE WEEK



KAZAKHSTAN

Next to size, the land in Kazakhstan is very diverse in types of terrain: lowlands, steppes, rock canyons, hills, mountains, snow-capped mountains, and deserts.

PEEP OF THE WEEK



You know you're ripped when you've got muscles in places that no one even knew existed.

100 Kwentong Peyups



"When I noticed last year I had enough time to replenish to go on a fitness program..."

I am happy to return to UP and to be, even in a small way, a part of it once again.

"Pat 'tuloy pa ako sa UP"

Tours, Leisure & Chow

Cinnabar Nights spice up the local party scene

IT'S A PARTY EVERY NIGHT THIS September at Cinnabar, the hip boutique bar and lounge at the Renaissance Makati City Hotel. Cinnabar Nights begin on "Martini Nights" on Tuesday offering a choice of concoctions shaken or stirred such as the classic martini to refreshing fruit martinis like lychee and key lime, to new exotic mixes like chili passion martini and calamansitini, all at P280 per glass. Live crossover music from Soul Groove complements the cool cocktails.

Latin rhythms are the main attraction for Wednesday nights as live entertainment from One Sol sets the tone for "Latin Nights". Refreshing Mojitos serve as the perfect accompaniment to the upbeat tunes at P280 per glass.

The dream cream, Bailey's, is the star of Thursday evenings with "Bailey's Special" where a "buy two for the price of one" is offered at P280. Offered are Bailey's original, caramel or mint. The talented Radha performs acid jazz for live entertainment.

A perfect week-end treat, premium vodka Belvedere highlights its fabulous cocktails such as: Lemon Drop, the Belvedere Luxury Cosmopolitan, among others at P280 on "Belvedere Nights". Blue Ash entertains with their rendition of Bossa Nova favorites.

Lastly, the most happening night of the week is all about luxury with "Heavenly Nights" on Saturdays. Travel the world to sophisticated destinations by trying cocktails namely: Heavenly London, Miami, Paris or Shanghai, all at P280 per glass. Dance to the music of R&B and jazz from Thor.

Cinnabar Nights start at 8 p.m. onwards. Prices are subject to 10 percent service charge.

Cinnabar at the Renaissance Makati City Hotel is open every hour of the day, every day. For more information and reservations, call 811-6888.



The finest Foie Gras at The Fireplace



ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR DELICACIES IN French cuisine, Foie Gras is revered as one of the most exquisite dishes in the world because of its rich, buttery and delicate flavour.

This September, come and experience the delicate flavour of this great delicacy at The Fireplace, where Chef Jo will skillfully prepare goose and duck liver, both synonymous with great taste and unabashed elegance, in exquisite ways that are sure to whet your appetite.

Experience the height of gastronomic pleasure with such tempting dishes as Terrine of Rougie Foie Gras with Sauternes Jelly, Chanterelle Salad and Brioche Melba Toast, Seared Goose Liver with Balsamic Glazed Strawberries and Organic Greens and Roasted Rougie Duck Breast on Braised Red Cabbage with Seared Duck Liver in Orange Jus, to name just a few.

So, give in to your desires and savour this luxury dish that is guaranteed to make you come back for more. Make your reservations now at The Fireplace, located on the fifth floor of Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila.

For enquiries and reservations, please call 245-1234.

Pan Pacific Manila goes nautically white





PAN Pacific Manila's Richard Bascon, Fobbie Santos, Zhorav Teo, Carlo Cruz, Gail Villanueva, Richard Manalo, Ross Galia, Oleg Hammann, Claudia Alaya, Lyn Serrano, Joy Magalong, Che Bustamante, Kathy Manuel and Ross Manalo.

WITH GENERAL MANAGER RICHARD Manalo as the Cruise Captain and the rest of the team dressed as sailors, cruise staff, deckhands, shore excursion managers and cruise directors, the sales and marketing team together with the Butlers of Pan Pacific Manila honoured its top accounts last Aug. 20 via the 5th Travelers Palm Awards themed "Nautically White".

The hotel's ballroom was transformed into a cruise ship and guests boarded as mainly fun and sailed onto a night of fun and exciting surprises. Hosted by the dashing Mandy Ochoa, the program kicked off with the traditional parade of the sales and management team followed by the message from Manalo.

The sales and marketing team also prepared special song and dance numbers to the delight of their valued clients while the six Mermaids entertained guests the whole night with their beautiful and soulful music. Lucky winners won fantastic prizes.

The Travelers Palm Awards is Pan Pacific Manila's annual appreciation night for its top, loyal and valued clients.

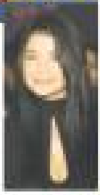
Pan Pacific Manila is the first and finest luxury hotel in the region offering personalized Butler service. For enquiries and reservations, visit panpacific.com/manila or call 318-0788 and ask for the Butler of course!

PEEPS

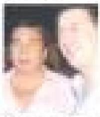
Aokinetics!

Crime scene Visual Light Studio
Date of release July 29, 2008
Party perpetrator Steve Aoki
Ulterior motive Rogue magazine's 1st year anniversary





ANNE Curtis



LOUIE Tuason and Boompy Marcos



GEORGINA Wilson and Ingrid Pedro



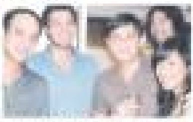
MARTA Antonio, Carmela Lopa, and Mia Trillo-Aljarra



JOEY Mead and Rogue's Katrina Tuason



KAREN Bonastro and Vhani Navarrete



JASSY Yulo, Bobbi Bernaliaro, Jon Yulo, Clem Jaime, and Mia Borgos



AMADO Fores



JUANA Manahan, Teresa Morales, and Erin Campos



ROSANNA Ocampo



RAFA Alunan

SUPER SELECTS

Jack of all trades, master of some

Samsung's i8510 has just about everything

By Adel Gabot

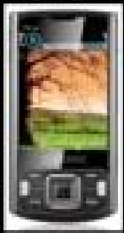


IN HIS talk at The Last Hope conference in New York last July, Mark ... Adam Savage said that expression "Jack of all trades, master of none" is actually just half of the complete saying. Savage says people forget that it ends "... though often better than master of one."

[illegible]

New breed

[illegible]



Samsung's innovative new phone, the i8510

Everything and the kitchen sink

[illegible]

The cell that roots

[illegible]

Shutterbug

[illegible]

Multimedia maven

[illegible]



2bU LifeStyle

'Gossip Girl' is back

Trashy girl is back on trash TV

By Wanggo Gallaga


BLAIR is back with a vengeance.

Closet queen

Your mom's closet could become your best style weapon

By Bianca Fernandez


VINTAGE chic is cool


GRANNY fashion never looked this good


STOCK UP on interesting head gear

We've got WINNERS!



Confessions of an Olympic Family Assistant

By Pam Pastor

Meet 21-year-old Rebecca, the Olympic Family Assistant of the Philippine Olympic officials

FOR A NUMBER OF STUdents in Beijing, the Olympics was more than just a series of intense competitions. It was a chance for them to bond with people from all over the world—by acting as Olympic Family Assistants.

[illegible]

Tiring and difficult

[illegible]

Best part

[illegible]



REBECCA sharing a moment with a Filipino Olympic athlete.

[illegible]

HOT FINDS!

Badger's newest balms

By Pam Pastor

A COUPLE OF YEARS ago, we started raving about Badger Balms. Our top picks were the Sleep Balm and the Anti-Bug Balm which really work wonders.

[illegible]



Stress soother

[illegible]

Headache soother

[illegible]

Yoga & meditation balm

[illegible]



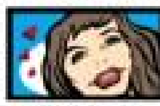
School giving you a hard time? These tips might offer some relief

[illegible]

My ex-girlfriend is deranged

DEAR JESSE,

[illegible]



[illegible]

Watch out for the Philippine Blog Awards

The Philippines is the fastest-growing blog community in the world, and the awards will reaffirm the Pinoy blogging fellowship

THE PHILIPPINES IS THE perfect case study for industry surprises. Remember, back in the early 2000's when texting became popular? Soon the Philippines became known to the world as the texting capital—and it was no joke that Filipinos in the telco industry were granted expatriation elsewhere because they had the experience of an industry that was five years ahead of everyone else.

Today, another industry surprise is taking place, not in the airwaves of telco towers and mobile phones, but on the Internet: Blogs are big in the Philippines and the Philippines has become a world leader in the blogging industry.

According to a Universal McCann study on new media adoption, the Philippines has had the highest growth rate in blogging engagements in the span of only three years. What's interesting to note is that the Philippines has exceeded the global average for blog readership (72.8 percent in 2008) during this time, growing from 33 percent in September 2006 to 64 percent in June 2007 and 90.3 percent in May 2008.

Since 2005, the Philippine "blogosphere" has been active in promoting new careers in professional blogging, which is making a living through blogs in the same way that writers and editors have professional jobs in the publishing industry. Since then, the blogging community has taken their online connections a step further into the real world, forming real communities of varied demographics. Since then, dozens of blog related events have sprouted. In the Philippines, there is at least one blog-related event per week.

The Philippine Blog Awards were formed in 2007 in celebration of the Philippines as a leader in the blogging industry. The Philippine Blog Awards aim to recognize notable blogs in the Philippines based on content, community and design. The awards, similar to last year, will be judged by representatives from mainstream press, online media practitioners, and crossover media specialists.

The Philippine Blog Awards are the country's largest aggregation of Filipino bloggers. The awards are run by non-stock, non-profit organization that is currently on its second year of awarding. In the previous year, Philippine Blog Awards gave away 15 awards for different categories. This year, there will be 38 awards, under three divisions and 13 categories.

Since the start of nominations in Q2 2008, there have been over 500 nominations that total no less than 4.7 million page views per month in online traffic.

Apart from giving away more awards, the Philippine Blog Awards are also going to recognize notable online advocacy campaigns started by Filipinos.

There are over 3.7 million Filipinos who are actively engaged in online activities, and 90.3 percent are blog readers.

On Sept. 21, the Philippines will make its voice heard at One Esplanade to celebrate the second Philippine Blog Awards. Since the event recognizes the online efforts of Filipino bloggers in all parts of the globe, there will be a live stream and live blogging sponsored by SMART Bro, allowing Filipinos from all parts of the world to watch.

Virtual karma matters

Have a killer one-liner? Then 'Plurk' it!

By Rosy de Vera

THOSE WERE THE DAYS when we used to be dependent on what the Internet fed us; we couldn't do anything if what we were looking for was not online.

With the onset of Web 2.0, where the users provide the web content such as blogs, social networking sites, and even online galleries, there is a wider and more personal choice online.

There are thousands of blogs out there and social networking sites thrive in a cutthroat environment, fighting each other for space. Some of these sites have begun to incorporate each other's features, such as blogging and online galleries in one. Personally, as a user of these sites, I don't always have the time and energy to whip out prose and poetry or upload pictures.

Fortunately, there is something in between. For several months now, I have been what you can call a Plurker. Plurk's (http://www.plurk.com) increasing popularity among the Web 2.0 crowd is spreading like wildfire.

Plurking starts here

With Plurk, you dish out your killer one-liners and rhetorical questions called—you guessed it—Plurks. You have no choice really, because there is a character limit for each Plurk so you have to be creative. Creative enough that it catches the attention of your Plurker Friends so they reply to your Plurk. Your Plurks are published in a Timeline, like a chart where a Plurk is placed in the corresponding hour when you actually posted it.

Yes, you still add friends just like a social networking site. Plurker Friends can follow your Timeline and reply to your Plurks, and you can do the same thing with them. For a rockstar feel, you can have Fans—people who can follow your Timeline and reply to your Plurks, but you can't see theirs. If you feel that something you posted is not something for public consumption, you can always set a post to Private and only select users or groups who are allowed to view it.

Another feature of Plurk is the use of poster verbs in different languages, so you can Plurk not only in English, but also in Tagalog, French, Swedish and many more. One must be used to speaking in third person when Plurking, but of course the verb "says" is available.

You can post links to websites, photos, and videos too, if one-liners and haikus don't cut it for you.

Plurkmania

Why the need to be creative? Because in Plurk, what goes around, comes around. What makes it so addicting is the concept of virtual karma. Whenever you Plurk or reply to Plurks, your karma increases. If you don't Plurk regularly your karma decreases. Rejection from your friend requests can also decrease your karma.

You may wonder what is the point of all the karma fluctuations. As you gain more karma, you get rewards. Hitting karma of 40 allows you to change your Plurk name to whatever you want, not just your username. Karma of 50 and above gains you more emoticons. A bestseller is the dancing banana, which you can't find in different sites. Love it or hate it, it's there to put some emphasis on your statements.

Self-discipline required

So far, we have planned parties from a single Plurk, talked about the Kyoto Protocol, debated whether a jacket is cool or not, and even tactfully waited for a friend's wife to give birth (which turned out to be a false alarm).

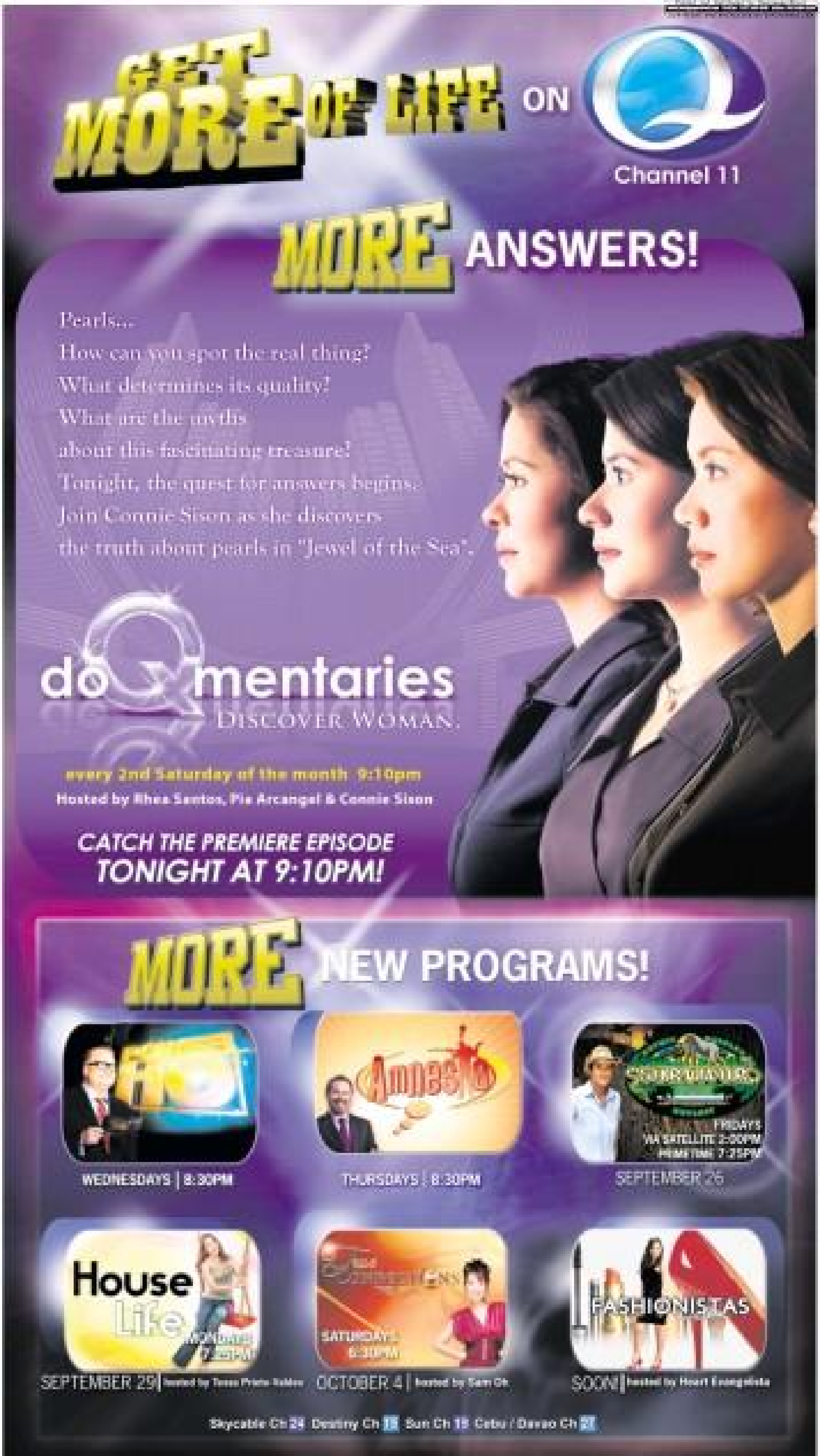
It's addicting, it's time-consuming, and it's just too fun. When you open up Plurk and see something like "300 messages unread," it takes a great amount of willpower not to read every single one of them, for fear of missing something important. Fortunately, there is such a button that obliterates all temptation, and it's called "Mark All as Read."

Plurk satisfies the need of expressing yourself when you can't compose a measly paragraph in blog, and it helps to silence the voices inside your head. But as with everything, exercise moderation. Get off the Internet from time to time and have a real, live conversation with other people.





Plurk makes for easy updates on the go.

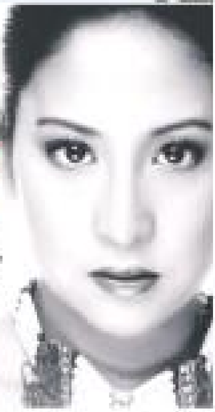

GET MORE OF LIFE ON
Channel 11
MORE ANSWERS!
Pearls...
How can you spot the real thing?
What determines its quality?
What are the myths
about this fascinating treasure?
Tonight, the quest for answers begins.
Join Connie Sison as she discovers
the truth about pearls in "Jewel of the Sea".
doQmentaries
DISCOVER WOMAN.
every 2nd Saturday of the month 9:10pm
Hosted by Rhea Santos, Pia Arcangel & Connie Sison
CATCH THE PREMIERE EPISODE
TONIGHT AT 9:10PM!
MORE NEW PROGRAMS!
WEDNESDAYS | 8:30PM
THURSDAYS | 8:30PM
FRIDAYS
VIA SATELLITE 2:00PM
PRIMETIME 7:25PM
SEPTEMBER 26
House Life
SEPTEMBER 29
OCTOBER 4
FASHIONISTAS
SOON!
Skycable Ch 24 Destiny Ch 15 Sun Ch 19 Cebu / Davao Ch 27

SATURDAY Special

Editor: Nestor U. Torre • Assistant Editor: Rito P. Asilo

Maturity becomes Jolina Magdangal

By Rito P. Asilo



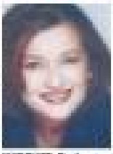
MAGDANGAL: Technical precision, perfect phrasing and emotional grandeur.

In a different light

Musical gems

Pinky Marquez, show biz dynamo

By Nestor U. Torre



MARQUEZ: On the go from morning till night—and then some!

'Superwoman'

Schedule

Out-of-town trips





Tarog aims for commercial appeal, artistic merit



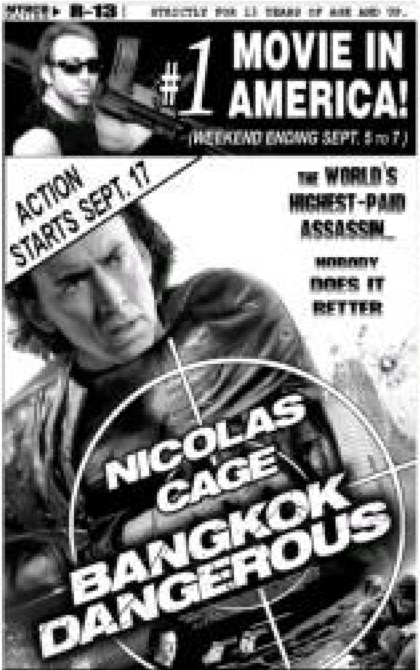
DIRECTORS Jerrold Tarog and Ruel Antipuesto proudly display their Gintong award.

By Rica Arevalo

Unexpected







True. . .

SHOW BIZ Q & A

Why do stars love to wear thick jackets and dark glasses?







'Billy Elliot,' 'Shrek' head lineup of new musicals



Conniving cad

Stories

True protection

Lotus Pond



'Our will be done'

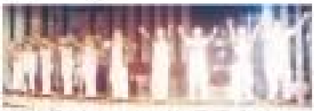
Instant favorite

Montage

Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards 2008

60th Emmy Awards on Studio 23





Family Fun Fest

The Fifth Gospel Singers

Movies on TV

Starmall workshops

On Disney Channel

WHAT'S INSIDE
'Billy Elliot,' 'Shrek' go the musical route /G4

SATURDAY *Special*

Making up for lost time

By Nestor U. Torre

ON THE LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT scene, out of sight is often out of mind. That's why "vacationing" stars have to work double time to reestablish themselves in fans' affections after their extended leave.

Gabby Concepcion is realizing this in a particularly striking way. After all, he was gone for more than a decade, so he's got his work cut out for him to make up for lost time and be counted as a player once more in Philippine show business.

To his credit, Gabby has kept himself in the public eye by way of his new song, "[illegible]," and his self-titled album. But, he shares studio billing on the teleserye with other local players, and albums generally aren't major career boosters, so Gabby still needs a big movie to firm up his comeback move.

Veteran star

Ironically, the veteran star's comeback gambit began months ago with a movie offer, "[illegible]," but he passed up on that, and the film is now about to be shown, with Dennis Trillo as replacement lead. Gabby now needs to get another film producer interested in coming up with a comeback project for him, and that takes both time and effort.

For his part, Jericho Rosales is trying to get his career going again by way of another new teleserye, "[illegible]," a Fil-Malaysian production that took months to be shot abroad. Will viewers welcome the young actor back with open arms?

He sure hopes so, because he used to be regarded as one of the most promising young actors on the local performing scene.

Singing career

While waiting for his comeback on TV, Jericho has been focusing on his singing career, but that isn't where the big bucks and honors are. Like Gabby, he needs a major movie project to really make up for lost time.

That may not be all that easy to achieve, because a number of other male costars' careers have heated up during Jericho's hiatus. John Lloyd Cruz, Sam Milby, Richard Gutierrez and other young leads have chalked up hits, so Jericho has to do even better to regain his advantage.

The comforting thing that should give his bid [illegible] everything he's got, because he is one of the best young actors we have, as proven by his intense portrayals in movies like "[illegible]." It would be such a waste if he were to be shunted aside by lesser talents.

Finally, we're glad that Aiko Melendez is also on the comeback trail, starting with her new TV song. She's lost a lot of weight, is back to "fighting" form, and she's still a good actress, so her comeback bid should succeed. If she loses some more pounds, she could give younger actresses a run for their money.

Unlike Gabby and Jericho, Aiko also has a career in politics going, so it'll be interesting to see her trying to make a go of her twin involvements.

Being a feisty and savvy young woman, she can be expected to succeed—and eventually follow the lead of Vilma Santos, another female show biz star who has managed to parlay her popularity into a viable political career—which now promises to acquire a national dimension!



CONCEPCION. Needs a big movie to firm up his comeback move.



MELENDEZ. Juggles careers in show biz and politics.



ROSALES. Will viewers welcome him back with open arms?

Filmmakers reach out to students

By Rica Arevalo


CALABARZON students attend Indie film directing workshop.

ONE OF MY ADVOCACIES is bringing Filipino movies made by the new generation of filmmakers to different institutions. Last week, I was invited to three events in different parts of the archipelago to screen independent films.

First stop

My first stop was for the "Mass Communication and Media Arts Week" of Southville International School and Colleges in Las Piñas City last Sept. 1. While lecturing, I saw a familiar face in the crowd: Jesse Gardon. The actor is a Mass Communication college sophomore who recently delivered a good performance as a gay man on "[illegible]." It's good to know that some show biz celebrities still value education, because we know that popularity is a fleeting thing.

The Southville crowd was receptive to the new ways of independent cinema. Nowadays, filmmakers can also broadcast their movies through the Internet or on handy media players like the iPod. They have to be ready to adapt to their roles as designers of new media.

Tour

The following day I caught a flight to Puerto Princesa, Palawan, to meet up with directors Adolf Alix and Sid Gludan for the Cinemalaya-CCP [illegible] Outreach Tour. In 1997, I stayed in the "cleanest city" for over a month to finish an environmental film with Ricky Davao. Upon my return, I was sadly astonished to learn that the city's cinemas have closed down!

Our simultaneous Cinemalaya screenings were held at four venues inside the Holy Trinity College, with around 1,000 students in attendance. Our hosts, Sr. Carol Cagili and Sr. Pedro Dahili of the Dominican sisters of St. Catherine of Siena, made us mingle with the young viewers after each screening. Adolf, Mick and I encouraged the students to make their own films. "Pisaring," the country's official entry in the Oscars, was shot in Palawan.

It was the first Puerto Princesa trip for Alix. He shared: "I loved the experience. It was wonderful to see how the students reacted to my film—and having a dialogue with them was very gratifying."

Storyline

My third outing was last Sept. 8, at the Calabarzon area, with filmmakers Mike Tolentino and Sigrid Andrea Bernardo—at De La Salle Lipa, Batangas, for the "Shoot to the Point" Indie film directing workshop, where we interacted with students from the University of Batangas, Batangas State University and De La Salle Lipa. We taught them how to develop a storyline, design their production, and execute a scene.

These trips may have been exhausting, but it was fulfilling to mingle with bright, hopeful students—who could become local cinema's next filmmakers!



When Hollywood danced up a storm



Contributions

Elastic and malleable

AT THE CINEMAS

- **GLORIETTA 1:** 1 RIGHTEOUS KILL; 2 HELLBOY 2; 3 BABYLON A.D.; 4 FOR THE FIRST TIME
- **GLORIETTA 4:** 1 BABYLON A.D.; 2 FOR THE FIRST TIME; 3 RIGHTEOUS KILL; 4 DEATH RACE; 5 BIG STAN; 6 HELLBOY 2; 7 [illegible]
- **GREENBELT 1:** 1 RIGHTEOUS KILL; 2 HELLBOY 2
- **GREENBELT 3:** 1 RIGHTEOUS KILL; 2 HELLBOY 2; 3 WALL-E; 4 FOR THE FIRST TIME; 5 BABYLON A.D.
- **ALABANG TOWN CENTER:** 1 HELLBOY 2; 2 RIGHTEOUS KILL; 3 BABYLON A.D.; 4 DEATH RACE; 5 FOR THE FIRST TIME
- **AYALA CENTER CEBU:** 1 HELLBOY 2; 2 RIGHTEOUS KILL; 3 FOR THE FIRST TIME; 4 BABYLON A.D.
- **MARKET! MARKET!:** 1 HELLBOY 2; 2 BABYLON A.D.; 3 [illegible]; 4 RIGHTEOUS KILL; 5 FOR THE FIRST TIME
- **TRINOMA:** 1 FOR THE FIRST TIME; 2 DEATH RACE; 3 RIGHTEOUS KILL; 4 BABYLON A.D.; 5 [illegible]; 6 BIG STAN; 7 HELLBOY 2

AT THE MALLS

- Glorietta
- Greenbelt
- Alabang Town Center
- Ayala Center Cebu
- Market! Market!
- Cinemagic
- Ayala Museum
- TriNoma

NOW SHOWING

De Niro and Pacino's riveting performances lift flawed thriller



Thanks to a leak, Lav Diaz knew of his Venice win before announcement

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD







'Food Showdown'



STREET SMART



Palanca Awards continue to launch literary careers

